

SECRET CONTROL

MAS-003-706
Wash

XARZ-27903
6 March 1947

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MICROFILMED

SUBJECT: Arthur Pier, Former Chief SYMPHONY Agent

TO: Chief of Mission
Chief, SC

THROUGH: ☐ ☐

1. On 26 February 1947 I was informed by trusted Fatsa that a Soviet Lt. Colonel by the name of Alexander Lapsin, alias Schaja Lichtmann, and Alexander Rutenburg, had come through Jewish refugee channels to Saalfeiden along with his wife, and had been picked up there by the MP's because of lack of proper identification credentials. According to Fatsa's information (usually reliable), Arthur Pier had been anxious to have this couple removed to Italy through underground channels as speedily as possible.

2. On checking, I learned that Lapsin had been turned over to the 430th CIC Detachment, Salzburg. A subsequent interrogation of Lapsin by Price revealed that Lapsin had met Arthur Pier in Camp Wegscheid around 20 January 1947. His identity and his alias (Lichtmann) was known to Pier who at that time assigned him the name of Alexander Rutenburg and promised to send him and his wife immediately to Italy.

3. If you will recall, on 31 January 1947, Pier had promised our CIC cut-out to call all Jewish refugees of eventual CI interest to CIC attention. Although Lapsin did not prove to have any information of interest for this office, his presence here, nevertheless, should have been announced by Pier.

4. Inasmuch as Pier called on CIC only once during the entire month of February, and, at that, only on an insignificant matter, I regard it as significant to call to your attention his conspicuous lack of assistance during the month when hundreds of Jewish refugees entered the zone.

5. Word has been sent to Pier that as soon as he comes to Salzburg, he must call immediately on Harris Greene, Assistant Chief, 430th CIC.

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